

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 30

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Black
HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

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Whereas the Centers for Disease Control (“CDC”) has stated that, at the end of 2003, over 172,000 African Americans were living with AIDS, representing 42 percent of all cases in the United States;

Whereas the CDC has further stated that, in 2003, African Americans accounted for 50 percent of all new HIV in-

fections, despite representing only about 12.3 percent of the population (according to the 2000 Census);

Whereas the CDC estimates that, in 2003, African American women represented 67 percent of all new AIDS cases among women, and were 23 times more likely to be infected than white women;

Whereas the CDC estimates that 69 percent of all children born to HIV infected mothers in 2003 were African American;

Whereas the CDC has determined that the leading cause of HIV infection among African American men is sexual contact with other men, followed by intravenous drug use and heterosexual contact;

Whereas the CDC has determined that the leading cause of HIV infection among African American women is heterosexual contact, followed by intravenous drug use;

Whereas, in 2000, AIDS was among the top three causes of death for African American men in the age group 25 through 54, and African American women in the age group 35 through 44;

Whereas the CDC estimates that, since 1994, African Americans have the poorest survival rates of any racial or ethnic group diagnosed with AIDS, with 55 percent surviving after 9 years compared to 61 percent of Hispanics, 64 percent of whites, and 69 percent of Asian Pacific Islanders;

Whereas, in 1998, the Congress and the Clinton Administration created the National Minority AIDS Initiative to help coordinate funding, build capacity, and provide prevention, care, and treatment services within the African

American, Hispanic, Asian-Pacific Islander, and Native American communities;

Whereas, in 1999, the CDC provided funding to five national nonprofit organizations known as the Community Capacity Building Coalition (“CCBC”): Concerned Black Men, Inc. of Philadelphia; Health Watch Information and Promotion Services, Jackson State University—Mississippi Urban Research Center; National Black Alcoholism & Addictions Council; and National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS;

Whereas the CCBC assists with leadership development of community-based organizations (“CBOs”), establishes and links provider networks, builds community prevention infrastructure, promotes technical assistance among CBOs, and raises awareness among African-American communities;

Whereas, on February 23, 2001, the CCBC organized the first annual National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, whose slogan is “Get Educated, Get Involved, Get Tested”; and

Whereas February 7 of each year is now recognized as National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That the Congress—

3 (1) supports the goals and ideals of National
4 Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day and recognizes the
5 fifth anniversary of observing such day;

6 (2) encourages State and local governments, in-
7 cluding their public health agencies, to recognize

1 such day, to publicize its importance among their
2 communities, and to encourage individuals to under-
3 go testing for HIV;

4 (3) encourages national, State, and local media
5 organizations to carry messages in support of Na-
6 tional Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day;

7 (4) commends the President for highlighting
8 HIV/AIDS in the State of the Union address; for
9 emphasizing the importance of addressing the HIV/
10 AIDS epidemic among the African American com-
11 munity, especially among African American women;
12 as well as international efforts to address the global
13 HIV/AIDS epidemic;

14 (5) encourages enactment of effective HIV pre-
15 vention programs, including ABC programs like
16 those implemented in Uganda, which recognizes ab-
17 stinence and being faithful to one's lifetime partner
18 as effective ways to prevent HIV; and

19 (6) encourages States to enact HIV surveillance
20 programs consistent with recognized infectious dis-
21 ease control methods to ensure accurate data, better

- 1 targeting of resources, and improved delivery of
- 2 health services to those living with HIV.

Passed the House of Representatives February 9,
2005.

Attest:

Clerk.